



Montana Traffic Education Association

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Subject: Quarterly Report for MDT PROJECT # 8117-37
Keep Encouraging Young Driver Safety (KEYS) Pilot Study: Increasing Parental
Involvement in Teenage Driving through Driver Education

Ms. Sillick:

Thank you for the support of your office for the KEYS Pilot Study of increasing parental involvement in teenage driving through driver education. The following report fulfills the obligations of Section III, Item 1.

In this KEYS pilot study, a multidisciplinary team will develop, adapt, and pilot-test parent-teen homework assignments for use with the driver education curriculum. The team includes a researcher, Dr. Jessica Hartos; state program manager/policy maker, Mr. David Huff; university professional development provider, Montana State University – Northern; state traffic education association executive secretary, Mr. Jim Carroll; and teaching practitioners, including experienced driver education instructors.

Homework assignments will utilize evidence-based strategies to increase parent involvement, which are to include parents in programmatic efforts; promote parent establishment of strict initial expectations for young driver safety; expose parents to goal-oriented persuasion; and clearly define parent roles and responsibilities by inviting parents to participate. Qualitative data will be collected from participating driver education instructors, teenagers, and parents throughout the process to capture their thoughts and feelings about parent involvement in driver education and the use of parent-teen homework assignments. Suggestions for any improvements in the process will be solicited.

K.E.Y.S. PROJECT DECISIONS/ACTIVITIES

During the past quarter we received notification of the grant and made the following decisions/actions:

First Decision/Action: July 2008

- Project staff selected and initial meeting set for July 16 & 17, 2008.

Second Decision/Action: July 2008

- The initial KEYS project design meeting was held on July 16 and 17, 2008 in Helena.
 - Training/discussions included communicating with parents.
 - Number, content and scoring of assignments for parent teen homework was drafted, including expectations for parent and teen communication.
 - An online survey was initiated in July and August for homework assignments, activities, and outcome behaviors.

Third Decision/Action: August 2008

- Feedback on July decisions and project documents was solicited from project staff using an online survey.

Fourth Decision/Action: September 2008

- Utilizing conference calls with select staff, parent/teen assignments and activities were developed and edited using findings of the NICHD CheckPoints research and experience of Montana driver education experts and additional research on skill competence and other related topics.
- A parent evaluation of teen driving and expectations was drafted based upon state standards for driver education and research on skill competence.

During the next quarter the following will be achieved in accordance with project timeline (see below):

- The second KEYS project design meeting will be held on October 25 & 26.
 - The entire team will review and comment on initial drafts of project parent/teen homework and driver assessment documents.
 - Staff will receive additional training for conducting pilot testing with individual parents and teens and collecting qualitative feedback on the materials from parents, teens, and instructors.
 - Project timelines will be reviewed and evaluated in regards to feasibility based upon cycles of school and driver education programs.
- The KEYS documents will be updated based upon comments from October staff meeting, printed, and made available for initial pilot testing.

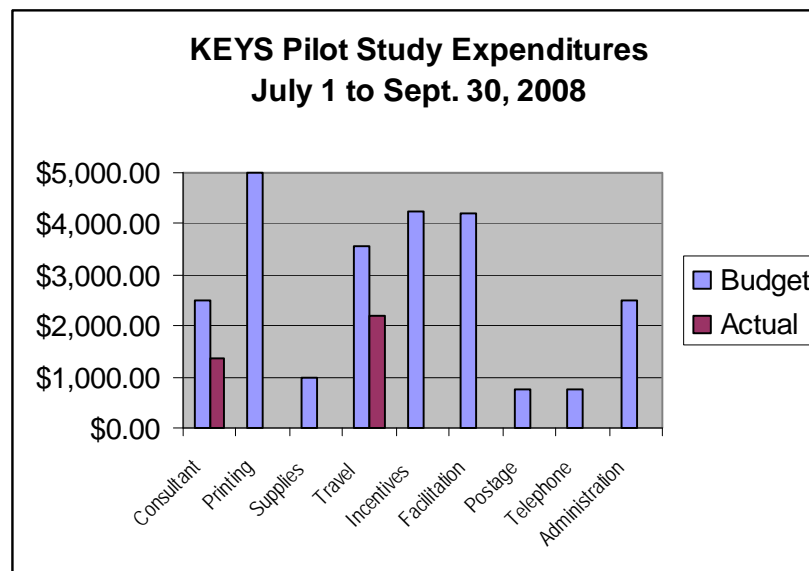
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- Collect qualitative feedback from individual parents, students and their instructors.
- Revise homework assignments based on feedback.
- Train instructors for pilot testing materials with small classes.
- Begin collecting qualitative feedback from small classes that use homework assignments.
- Preliminary plans for introducing the project at the April 26-28, 2009 traffic education conference will be made.

Budget

The K.E.Y.S. project provides funding for staff stipends, materials, printing and other expenses based upon the following budget and narrative:

	Planned	Expended
Consultant, Dr. Jessica Hartos	\$2,500	\$1,357.51
Printing	5,000	
Misc Supplies	1,000	
Travel and Per Diem for Project Staff and Advisors	3,550	\$2,188.47
Participant Incentives: Schools, Instructors, parents	4,240	
Project facilitation stipends (3 @ \$1,000 & 1 @ \$1200)	4,200	
Postage/Delivery	750	
Telephone/fax	750	
Administrative fees (MSUN \$1500 & MTEA \$1,000)	<u>2,500</u>	
TOTAL	\$24,490.00	\$3,545.98



The following Budget Decisions and Actions were conducted during this quarter:

The Montana-based research staff and advisors attended the first of two, two-day meetings:
The curriculum design team met in Helena on July 16 and 17, 2008.

The \$2,188.47 includes travel for seven individuals on the design team, including the Project Coordinator, 2 Driver Ed Coordinators, 2 Project Advisors and 2 Teacher/Project Advisors.

The \$1,357.51 includes consultant fees incorporating travel and professional fees for Dr. Jessica Hartos, project consultant.

Respectfully submitted,

**James Carroll, K.E.Y.S. Project Coordinator
Montana Traffic Education Executive Director**

On behalf of MSU-Northern

Table 1. Timeline Implementing Montana KEYS Pilot Study

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Determine project staff	July											
Determine meeting schedules and responsibilities	July											
Determine number, content, and “scoring” of homework assignments	July 16/17	Aug rev.	Jul rev.	Oct rev.								
Develop, construct, and print preliminary versions of ideas, content, and instructions		Online Survey	Sept 10, 17, 19 Oct 10, 15	Oct 25/26								
Train instructors for pilot testing materials				Oct 25/26								
Collect qualitative feedback from individual parents, students and their instructors				x	x	x						
Revise homework assignments based on feedback						x	x					
Train instructors for pilot testing materials				Oct 25/26		x	x					
Collect qualitative feedback from small classes that use homework assignments							x	x	x			
Revise homework assignments based on feedback								x	x	x		
Finalize electronic version of product											x	x
Prepare and submit final report											x	x

Cells with dates indicate that item has been addressed or completed.